and supply of LPG cylinders to the public;

(b) if BO, what are the details thereof and many agencies are run ning at present stating the name and the time of authority provided to them, State-wise details thereof

(c) if liot^ why the private agen cies are inviting people for taking new LPQ connections and whether Governmiut have taken any action against such agencies; and

(d) if no^ the details thereof and if not, tke reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SA TISH SHARMA): (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using/setting up their own facjljties and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG, at market determined prices. No permission 1ST required to be obtained from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for undertaking parallel marketing. However^ they will have to obtain necessary approval under relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety; pollution control etc ; as applicable.

(b) to (d) Under the Parallel Marketing System private agencies are free to aopojnt distributors and register customers; without anv involvement of Government Howevpr the State and UT Governments have been advised to ban collection of deposits by parallel marketeers for appointment of dealers anrl distributors ag well as for registration of LPG customers without making adequate arrangements for regular suonly of LPG.

Joint venture with Chvna in Petro-leum sector

261. M.SS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dicing his Recent visit to China, the Minister of Pet roleum and Natural Gas signed an|? MOUs for joint venture between In dia and China in Petroleum sector; uid

(b) if so, the details thereof indi eating the terms and conditions invest. ment involved therein and benefits likely to accrue to both India and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OS THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA); (a) and (b) At the conclusion of the recent visit of Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas to China, agreed mint* tes were signed between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the China National Petroleum Corporation for cooperation in Ifce oil and gas sector. Memranda of understanding were also signed between ONGC Oil India Ltd. and En-gineers India" Ltd. and their Chinese counterpart companies for cooperation in their related fields in the oil and gas sector.

Discovery of oil by ONGC in Tripar*

282. SHRI MD. SALEM:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has discovered huge gas deposits of about 28 billion cubic meters jn Tripura;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this gas can be supplied t_0 gas based industries (viz. fertilizers, methanol or power plants) with modest gas demand at least fo_r *'M* years;

(c) whether it is a tact that seve ral such proposals adequately pro cessed by the State Government of Tripura have recently been turned down by the Central Government;

(d) whether it is also a fact that ONGC is withdrawing its drilling and exploration activities from Tri-pura in the pretext that there is no takers for gas in the State; and

(e) what are the reasons that no drilling' plan i_s taken up by the ONGC management to tap the oil prospects of Basail reservoirs in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND HATURAL GAS (CAPT. SA-TISH UHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allocations of 1.75 MMSCMD have already been made. The draw-al of gas in 1993-94 was 0.28 MMSCMD.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) ONGC ha_s planned to probe Berail prospects and has released four locations. One of these locations is likely to be taken up for drilling soon.

Damage in oil producing well, *Gait* Green-I

263. SHRI MD. SALIM:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to •tate:

(a) whether it is a fact that the oil producing well Golf Green-I is so severely damaged that no profit able production can be taken from that well;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that substitute well i$ not being ta-k^n up for drilling to tap the Eocene oil pool; and

(c) whether it ig a fact that the WPII Golf Green-I has landed up into 2^n0 ner cent time and cost overrun due *to* erroneous decisions and policies of the management?

THE MINISTER OF STATK OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No erroneous decisions were taken and the time and cost overrun in well Golf Green-I were because of technical requirements due to complications in the well.

Raid in Houses of Railway OBeers

264. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN

; Will the Miniser of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact thai the houses of Railway Officers were raided recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Raids were mainly on account Of complaints of demand of bribe, possession of disproportionate assets and misuse of railway labow.

Konkaa Railway

265. SHRI JANARDHANA POO-JARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS b_e pleased to state:

(a) what progress has so far been made with regard to the setting up of Konkan railway as on 15th July, 1994;

(b) the work that has been completed so far from region to region; and

(c) what is the quantum of work to be completed in Goa region?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) 69 per cent.

(b) Roha—Veer section (48 KMs) from Roha end and Mangalore—Udi-pi section (68 KMs) from Mangalore